

IN THE CLAIMS:

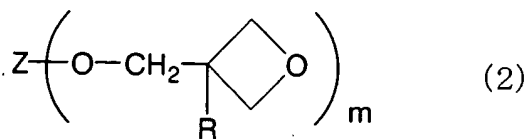
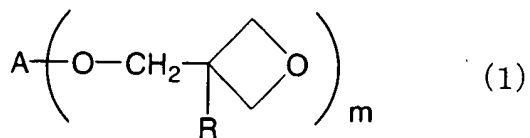
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended and claim 4 has been added as follows:

Listing of Claims:

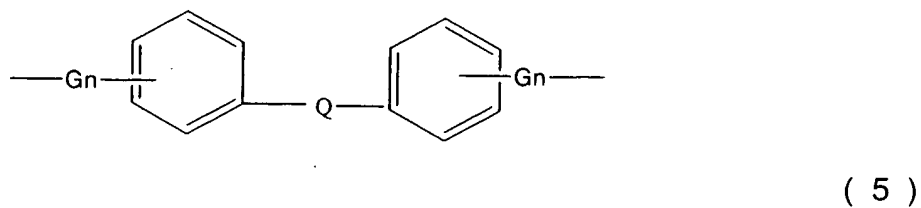
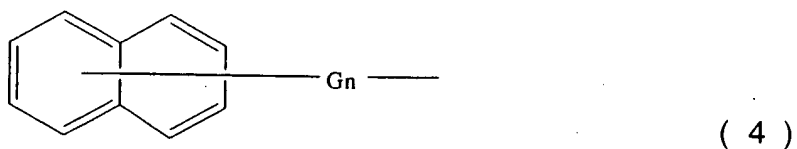
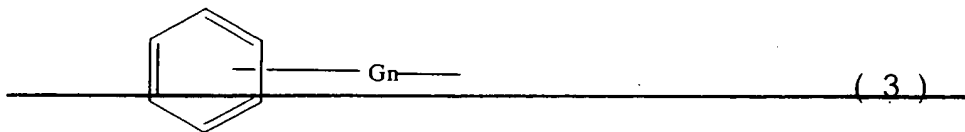
Claim 1 (currently amended): A process for producing an alicyclic oxetane compound represented by the following general formula (2), which comprising subjecting an aromatic ring of an aromatic oxetane compound having at least two oxetane rings and represented by the following general formula (1) to nuclear hydrogenation:

[Chem 1]



in the general formulae (1) and (2), m represents an integer of 2 to 4, R represents an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, A represents a divalent to tetravalent aromatic residue represented by any one of the following general formulae [(3)] (4) to (5), and Z represents an alicyclic residue produced by hydrogenation of the aromatic residue represented by A:

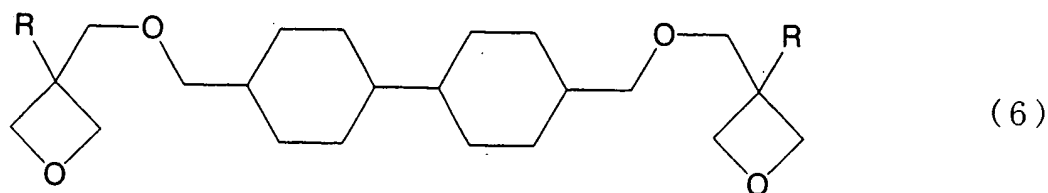
[Chem 2]



in the general formulae [(3),] (4), and (5), G represents single bond, methylene group, ethylene group, or ethylidene group, Q represents single bond, oxygen atom, methylene group, ethylene group, ethylidene group, or isopropylidene group, n represents a number of G by which an aromatic ring is substituted and represents an integer of 2 to 4 in each of the general formulae (3) and (4), and a total of n in the general formula (5) represents an integer of 2 to 4.

Claim 2 (original): A process for producing an oxetane compound according to claim 1, wherein the alicyclic oxetane compound represented by the general formula (2) comprises an oxetane compound represented by the following general formula (6):

[Chem 3]



where R represents an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A process for producing an oxetane compound according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the nuclear hydrogenation is performed in a presence of a catalyst containing at least one kind of a metal selected from the group consisting of Ni, Co, Ru, Rh, Pd, Os, Ir, and Pt and in a presence of a hydrogen gas having a pressure of 1 MPa (gauge pressure) or more at 50 to 250°C.

Claim 4 (new): A process for producing an oxetane compound according to claim 2, wherein the nuclear hydrogenation is performed in a presence of a catalyst containing at least one kind of a metal selected from the group consisting of Ni, Co, Ru, Rh, Pd, Os, Ir, and Pt and in a presence of a hydrogen gas having a pressure of 1 MPa (gauge pressure) or more at 50 to 250°C.